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Scardovi et al.(10) **Patent No.:** US 7,367,655 B2  
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ENCODING CIRCUIT(75) Inventors: Alessandra Scardovi, Ivrea (IT);  
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See application file for complete search history.

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(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Venable LLP; Robert  
Kinberg; Steven J. Schwarz(57) **ABSTRACT**

Ink jet printhead comprising a driving and encoding circuit (20) having a grid-like structure, including a plurality of inputs (24), a plurality of selecting elements (12), a plurality of actuating elements (11) and at least one identifying element (21) of said printhead. Each identifying element (21) is associated with a corresponding selecting element (12) and corresponds to nodes arranged along a row or column of said grid-like structure, and is scanned, together with said actuating elements (11), during a preliminary checking step.

9 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

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